Geographic Data for NMFS' Proposed Rule: 71 FR 1998; January 12, 2006

These data were developed to support review of NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service's Proposed Rule to implement amendment 19 to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The proposed rule contains information on how to provide comments to NOAA Fisheries Service and is available on the web at http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/06-209.pdf

Coordinates outlining boundaries of Groundfish EFH Conservation Areas were extracted from Section 660.395 of the proposed rule, and converted to various formats to facilitate access and review by the public. The coordinate files and Geographic Information System (GIS) files were developed with the utmost care. However, any discrepancies between these files and the Federal Register will be resolved in favor of the Federal Register.

The data are provided in two formats:

- (1) CSV format: A comma-delimited text format which includes the name of the area and the coordinate in decimal degrees and degrees minutes formats.
- (2) Shapefiles: for use with GIS software, such as ESRI's ArcView and ArcInfo or other software that can import this proprietary format. Shapefiles of the point coordinates only, as well as closed polygons are provided. Note that additional data from NOAA, specifically the Exclusive Economic Zone boundary and the shoreline, were required to complete some of polygons, and are not necessarily the legal boundary.

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